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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR APPLICATION NO. 60,246-116 1229 Jim Otter 09/738,591 12/15/2000 **EXAMINER** 03/23/2004 26096 7590 CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C. PARKER, FREDERICK JOHN 400 WEST MAPLE ROAD ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER **SUITE 350** BIRMINGHAM, MI 48009 1762

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application/Control Number: 09/738,591

Art Unit: 1762

The reply brief filed 2/17/04 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frederick J. Parker whose telephone number is 571/272-1426. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur. 6:15am -3:45pm, and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shrive Beck can be reached on 571/272-1415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Frederick J. Parker Primary Examiner Art Unit 1762